

SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3935) to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. I wish to include in the RECORD the following letter from the National Football League, Major League Baseball, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, and the National Collegiate Athletic Association expressing opposition to Section 813 of the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act.

JULY 18, 2023.

DEAR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We write to urge you to oppose the weakening of a law that protects the millions of sports fans and spectators who attend professional and collegiate sporting events each year. The current statutory ban on aircraft—including unmanned aircraft systems (“UAS”) or drones—flying over large stadium sporting events throughout the country provides necessary safety and security protections against real and potential threats.

We are deeply concerned about section 813 of the House version of the Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) Reauthorization Act. If adopted, the language would establish a broad and complex waiver program that would permit countless aircraft to fly near and over stadiums during games, putting millions of fans at risk, and unnecessarily so. Congress wisely eliminated a similar waiver program back in 2003, after discovering troubling and persistent failures, gaps, and vulnerabilities in the process for conducting background checks and issuing waivers.

The FAA first established flight restrictions over large stadium sporting events immediately following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, in response to concerns about terrorists using aircraft as weapons. Congress subsequently twice codified and strengthened these restrictions, providing specific criteria for aircraft operations permitted within the flight restricted area. Section 813 would effectively eliminate the specific criteria and replace it with an open-ended waiver program.

The long-standing, congressionally mandated flight restriction enhances the safety and security of large stadium events, while minimizing the disruption to the National Airspace System (“NAS”). Specifically, airspace over large stadiums—with a seating capacity of 30,000 people or more and where a NFL, MLB, and NCAA Division 1 football games or major motor speedway events, such as NASCAR and INDYCAR races, are taking place—is closed to all aircraft from one hour before until one hour after a major sporting event. The flight restrictions extend to three nautical miles from the center of the stadium and from the surface to 3,000 feet above the stadium. The flight restrictions do not apply to authorized aircraft, such as Department of Defense, law enforcement or air ambulance flight operations, or those in contact with air traffic control for take offs and landings at nearby airports, among others.

Having devoted substantial resources to secure our stadiums on the ground, we regard

the stadium flight restriction as essential to safeguarding the airspace overhead. Moreover, given the proliferation of UAS in our NAS, as well as the continuing need to remain vigilant to other current and emerging risks, the stadium flight restriction is as vital now as ever to our national security and public safety. We believe section 813 complicates the airspace over stadiums, compromises public safety and security, and courts potential disaster.

We, therefore, urge you to uphold current law and maintain existing flight restrictions that protect the safety and security of millions of fans who attend large stadium sporting events every year.

Sincerely,

CATHY LANIER,
Chief Security Officer,
National Football
League.

DAVID THOMAS,
Vice President, Security and Ballpark
Operations, Major
League Baseball.

BILL RHODES,
Managing Director,
Security, National
Association for Stock
Car Auto Racing.

DAN GAVITT,
Senior Vice President,
National Collegiate
Athletic Association.

HONORING FRANCES METCALF ON THE OCCASION OF HER 99TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frances Metcalf, who will be celebrating the milestone of her 99th birthday tomorrow. It is a distinct honor to pay tribute to Frances, who like many other women made substantial contributions to the war effort during World War II.

In 1943, Frances worked tirelessly to earn a job at one of the General Motors plants in East Cleveland, Ohio. There, she assisted in manufacturing air duct assemblies for over 75 Boeing B-29 Superfortress aircrafts which were crucial to U.S. military operations for over 20 years. She worked there until she was old enough to serve in women's branch of the United States Naval Reserve.

In 1944, the recruitment age for all female volunteers was 20 years old. That same year, Frances turned 20—and shortly thereafter, she enlisted to serve as a naval nurse in Brooklyn, New York. Many ‘Rosie the Riveters’ followed the same route in service to the homefront, and ultimately, were integral to U.S. victory.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring Frances Metcalf on her 99th birthday. I am beyond proud to serve her in Congress and to have her in our community. The crucial contributions of her and many other women should never be forgotten in our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on roll call No. 295.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MRS. ALEITA HUGUENIN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of Mrs. Aleita Huguenin. Passing away at the age of 77, Mrs. Huguenin leaves behind an indelible legacy as an educator, mentor, activist and friend.

Born in Durango, Colorado in 1946, to 2 teachers, Mrs. Huguenin's love for education and learning flourished from a young age. In the late 1960s, she moved with her family to Walnut Creek, beginning what would become a lifelong residency in California. After earning her bachelor's degree from San Francisco State University, Mrs. Huguenin began teaching elementary and middle school in the Mount Diablo Unified School District of Concord, California. Throughout her tenure as a teacher, she demonstrated a steadfast dedication to her students and strived to ensure they had the resources necessary to achieve their full potential.

Driven by her passion for activism and sincere belief in the importance of collective bargaining, Mrs. Huguenin served as the president of her local teacher's union, leading her fellow teachers in their first strike. Her critical work as a grassroots organizer and community leader, left an everlasting mark not only on Contra Costa County, but also California. For more than 40 years, Mrs. Huguenin served her country and community with an unwavering sense of justice and fairness. She consistently advocated for women's rights and equality for all, never failing to stand up for others and uphold the democratic values our country was founded on.

While exhibiting leadership as a community leader and advocate, Mrs. Huguenin also played a pivotal role in the California Teachers Association. For over 2 decades, Mrs. Huguenin impacted thousands of California educators, teaching them how to effectively serve future generations of students. As part of her critical work transforming California's education system, Mrs. Huguenin spearheaded the founding of the California Teachers Association Summer Institute, an innovative training program helping teachers learn how best to address the ever-changing needs of today's students.

In addition to her leadership in the education and community organizing fields, Mrs. Huguenin exemplified the spirit of altruism and innovation in all areas of her life. Mrs. Huguenin will be remembered not only for her decades of service to Contra Costa students and California teachers, but also for her genuine spirit of kindness and compassion. She

left an everlasting mark on her friends, students, mentees, and the greater California education system.

Mrs. Huguenin's enduring spirit will live on in her husband, son, 2 granddaughters, stepson, brother, sister-in-law, and nephew. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mrs. Huguenin's loved ones. I know that they, along with the people of Contra Costa County, join me in celebrating her life and legacy.

HONORING DR. JAMES PROCHASKA

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. James Prochaska. James (Jim) O. Prochaska was an internationally renowned expert on behavior change and co-developer of the transtheoretical (stages of change) model that revolutionized our prevention and treatment of health problems. He died on July

9, 2023, after a special week with family and friends on Star Island.

Born on August 6, 1942, into modest surroundings, Dr. Prochaska achieved the American Dream of education, excellence, and service. He earned his baccalaureate, master's, and doctorate in clinical psychology from Wayne State University. He was a Professor of Psychology at the University of Rhode Island from 1969 and founding Director of the Cancer Prevention Research Consortium there. Dr. Prochaska had over 50 years of psychotherapy experience in a variety of settings and consulted to a host of clinical and research organizations. He was the principal investigator on grants from the National Institutes of Health totaling over \$90 million and was recognized by the Association of Psychological Science as one of the most cited authors in psychology.

His 50 book chapters and 300+ scholarly articles focused on self-change, health promotion, and psychotherapy from a transtheoretical perspective, the subject of his professional book, *The Transtheoretical Approach*, and his 2 popular self-help books, *Changing for Good* and *Changing to Thrive*.

An accomplished speaker, he offered workshops and keynote addresses throughout the world.

Among his numerous awards were the Rosalie Weiss Award from the American Psychological Association, Innovators Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Beckham Award for Excellence in Education and Inspirational Leadership from Columbia University, and the Fries Health Education Award from the Society for Public Health Education.

He was the first psychologist to win a Medal of Honor for Clinical Research from the American Cancer Society and he was recognized as one of the top 3 preeminent clinical psychologists of the modern era in the Archives of Scientific Psychology.

Dr. Prochaska's ultimate accomplishments, however, were helping millions of people effectively change their behavior and establishing his loving family. For decades, Jim made his home in Rhode Island before retiring to California with his wife, Jan, so that they could be closer to their 2 children (Jason, Judith/Jodi) and their 5 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Dr. James Prochaska.